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Aristotelis Meteorologicorum libri quattuor. Recensuit indicem uerborum addidit F. H. FOBES. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1918. Pp. xlviii+235.

Mr. Fobes's edition of the *Meteorologica* does credit both to the editor himself and to the university which sponsors its publication. In it is presented the result of several years' exhaustive studies of the tradition of the *Meteorologica* and the typographically attractive volume, businesslike rather than sumptuous, is an outstanding example of what a university press may do toward promoting sound scholarly enterprise.

Mr. Fobes gives a fuller account of the manuscripts of the *Meteorologica* and their respective characters in his articles (*Classical Review*, XXVII, 249-52, and *Classical Philology*, X, 188-214, 297-314) than in the preface to the present volume, which is occupied rather with explanations of the orthography of his text, lists of the passages in which he differs from Bekker's readings or Bekker's critical notes, descriptions of the manuscripts, and bibliographies. But from both the articles and the text now published one gathers that his studies of the special problems of the text of the *Meteorologica* have been far more thorough than those of the modern editors, Bekker and Ideler, and withal have been sound and unprejudiced. In particular, he has made use of a manuscript (J, *Vindobonensis phil.* 100) not used by Bekker, which is slightly older than the earliest of Bekker's authorities (E, *Parisinus Bib. nat.* 1853).

The list of really scholarly editions by American editors of classical works is not yet a long one. Mr. Fobes's book deserves to be reckoned in this number.

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M. Tulli Ciceronis pro T. Annio Milone Oratio. Edited with Introduction, Notes, Vocabulary, and supplementary themes by LEO W. KEELER, S.J., Professor of Latin, Loyola University, Chicago. Chicago: Loyola University Press, 1919.

The oration for Milo has a special interest for students of Latin oratory in that it may be regarded as Cicero's ideal of a defensive argument; it contains not what he really said but what he would like to have said, and it was accepted by Roman critics as a model of its kind. Its great length—not much less than that of the four Catilines combined—and some difficulties of style have prevented its general use in our secondary schools, yet it is well worthy of study, not merely for its form, but for the light it sheds upon many men and customs of the Ciceronian age.

The present edition was prepared primarily for use in the Jesuit schools, where the boys receive longer and in some ways more thorough drill than is possible usually in our public high schools. The notes dwell less on purely

grammatical points—there are few references, and those to but one grammar—and more on interpretation. There is much translation and most of it good. The note on *salute* (§ 1) illustrates the editor's views upon a common fault in the treatment of such versatile words as *causa*, *consilium*, *res*, *virtus*, etc.: "To find the English equivalent . . . determine first from what evil there is a question of being saved: if from death, tr. 'life'; if from destruction, say 'existence' or 'preservation'; if from actual banishment, 'recall'; if from impending exile, 'civic status' or 'life.' Sometimes the more general 'well-being' is good." In § 61 *vultus* is rendered "demeanor," and it is remarked that "*conscientia* here is well translated by the English 'conscience'; such is rarely the case." In § 26 we learn that *fortissimo viro* is "often very nearly equivalent to our conventional and colorless 'the Honorable Mr.' " At § 72 the note on *mentiri gloriose* reads, "'win glory by the lie'; others 'glory in the lie.'" The late Harold W. Johnston makes it "falsely boast."

Following text and notes (which are on the same page) are a dozen "themes"—the repellent phrase "prose composition" is carefully avoided—English paragraphs for translation into Latin, each based on a chapter of the text. The brief introduction gives clearly the historical setting of the oration and also a "summary" or analysis of its argument, which is reinforced by fuller interpretative headings throughout the text. The careful student need never lose his bearings.

No quantities are marked in the text and none in the vocabulary except an occasional long penult, and that merely to show where the accent of a polysyllable should fall; but in *trucido* the long *i* is unmarked, and in *desilio* the first *i* correctly but unnecessarily has the breve, both evidently through oversight. It is a fair question whether we do not carry our marking of all long vowels too far. Surely if the student ever is to walk alone he should be able to do it after three years of careful drill and should not need the crutch in his Vergil year.

The book is handsomely printed and bound. Errors were not sought, and few were noted, e.g. *Quintillian* (p. 78, note); division of *dubitare* (p. 79, note); *siezed* (p. 61, note). It is a creditable and helpful edition of an important specimen of classic oratory.

H. M. KINGERY

The Master of the Offices in the Later Roman and Byzantine Empire.

By ARTHUR E. R. BOAK. New York: Macmillan, 1919.

Pp. x+160. \$1.00.

In this monograph, which forms the first part of the fourteenth volume of the "Humanistic Series" of the University of Michigan Studies, the author discusses in detail the origin, development, and decline of the Mastership of